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ASSOCIATION OF FLIGHT ATTENDANTS AFL-CIO

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12 March 2002

Docket Management System
U.S. Department of Transportation
Room Plaza 401
400 Seventh Street, SW
Washington, DC 20590

Re: Late Comment, Docket # FAA-2001-10999 -51

Dear Sir/Madam:

Please accept this comment regarding the above referenced docket, Criminal History Records Checks, on behalf of the membership of the Association of Flight Attendants, AFL-CIO, Local Council 87, at BWI airport.

I am very concerned about the effect this new rule has on flight attendants currently employed by US Airways and other carriers. As currently written, the rule makes no provision for an employee that may have been convicted of a listed crime, but whose individual circumstances clearly show that he/she is not a security risk. For example, a flight attendant was convicted of one of the listed crimes several years ago. She reported this fact to her employer, who after a thorough investigation, determined that the conviction would not effect her ability to perform her duties as a flight attendant. In fact, she is an outstanding employee with a flawless work record. Now, simply because of a rule change, she will loose her livelihood because she cannot have access to her workplace - the aircraft.

This rule should provide some process to allow such a flight attendant to demonstrate that his/her past record does not impact airport security. Without a process to appeal a suspension or termination arising out of this new rule, effected flight attendants are being denied due process, and are simply being treated unfairly.

I urge you to amend the rule to provide a mechanism that will allow good, dedicated and hardworking flight attendants who may have a conviction of a listed crime on their records, but who have not and do not pose any security risk, to retain their employment and careers.

Sincerely,

John Humphrey
Acting LEC President
Association of Flight Attendants, AFL-CIO
US Airways Council 87 - BWI

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DEPT OF TRANSPORTATION

INFLIGHT SAFETY PROFESSIONALS